FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 NOVEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Answering questions at a press conference reported by Tehran radio's English service, Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said the Majlis has declared its view on the hostage issue and the government will act in accordance with this. Rafsanjani added that an Algerian-Iranian joint committee is currently studying the reply made by the U.S. Government as well as the conditions laid down by the Majlis. He urged the United States to "accept the fact" that it can no longer use the issue as a "pretext" for its "imperialist plan." In an interview with Budapest radio, the ayatollah of Qom, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, said the students have "already handed the hostages over to the government" and are consequently no longer responsible for their fate. Referring to the possibility that the U.S. Government might not accept all the Majlis conditions, Montazeri said "in this event the hostages will face the courts."

Iran Domestic Affairs

Khomeyni Speeches, Health--In a 17 November speech to a gathering from Qom described by Tehran radio as "mainly bazaar tradesmen and merchants," Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni denounced "any clergyman who acts against the clerical trend" as "worse than a Savakist," and he added that there is a "plot" afoot aimed at "removing the clergy" from the political arena. Hoping that his advice might be remembered "after I am gone," the ayatollah said any person or organization arguing for the removal of the clergy "should be "isolated." In another speech on the same day to the police academy, reported by Tehran radio, Khomeyni apologized for not being able to speak at length owing to advice from his doctors.

'Fifth Column' Charges--An unattributed commentary on Tehran radio supported Khomeyni's previous calls for unity and claimed that a "fifth column, composed of the hypocrites and the feda'iyan had appeared in the "guise of deviant newspapers and well-known and liberal elements," using "famous personalities" as its "tool." In a 17 November statement carried by Tehran radio, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr also appealed for unity and described "those who show disrespect to the lofty status of the clerics" as a "fifth column."

Arrest Warrant for Mojahedin Leaders--AFP, citing an ETTELA'AT REPORT, reported that Tehran's revolutionary Islamic tribunal issued a warrant for the arrest of all the leading Mojahedin People's Party leaders on charges related to the conviction on 15 November of Mohammad Reza Sa'adati on charges of spying for the USSR.

Iranian Foreign Affairs

Relations With USSR--In an interview with KEYHAN, Iran's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Dr Mohammed Mokri, said Iran is grateful for the USSR's "neutral stance" in the war but needs to be "assured in practice that the Soviet Government is not providing Iraq with arms."

Kuwait Incident--In a 17 November statement carried by Tehran radio in response to Kuwaiti protests over alleged Iranian violations of Kuwait's airspace, the Foreign Ministry said Iranian policy is not based on aggression and the Iranian Government "has never entertained nor will it ever entertain any greedy designs against the neighboring territory, including Kuwait."

Rafsanjani Visit--In a press conference reported by Tehran radio's English service before his trip to Algeria, Libya and Syria, Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani said Iran should establish a "coordinated policy with our brother countries." Algiers radio reported Rafsanjani's arrival in Algeria on 17 November.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Warning--A 17 November statement by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, reported by Tehran radio, warned Iraq against using "deadly chemical weapons and incendiary bombs" against both civilian and military personnel. Asserting that Iran is aware of Iraqi preparations for using "chemical, germ and biological weapons," the statement warned "the vigilant conscience of the nations of the world" about the matter and called on the United Nations and the International Red Cross to "strongly reprimand" the Iraqi regime. It added that while Iran has never used "un-Islamic methods" and has never attacked non-military or nonstrategic targets in its war with Iraq, Iran will not remain indifferent to "these savage acts."

Montazeri on the Army--In his interview with Budapest radio, Ayatollah Montazeri said that for "about 6 months" before the Iraqi attack on Iran, intelligence sources indicated that "something was being prepared against us" because reports showed a "regrouping" of Iraqi military forces. Asked whether he trusted army officers who were in the army during the shah's regime, the ayatollah gave neither an affirmative nor a negative reply but said "we more or less reorganized the army."

Military Situation--In the fighting around Susangerd, Tehran radio reported the Iranian Airborne Division and other reinforcements have launched a fierce counterattack on the Iraqi forces in and around the city. The radio said the counterattack drove the Iraqis out of the city and they are now "on the brink of annihilation." An Iranian Joint Staff communique, carried by Tehran radio, claimed that Iranian forces have killed more than 200 Iraqis. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the masses, said Iraqi Air Force planes and helicopters had hit Iranian troop concentrations around Susangerd, inflicting "heavy losses." On the other fronts, Tehran radio reported residential areas in Abadan and Ahvaz were shelled by Iraqi artillery and said Iranian forces launched attacks on Iraqi armored concentrations northeast of the Bahmanshir River. Another Iranian Joint Staff communique, carried by Tehran radio, said the Iranian Air Force has struck at targets near Sulaymaniyah, Umm Qasr and Al-Faw in Iraq as well as supporting the Iranian counterattack at Susangerd.

Iraq

In comments made at a Paris reception reported by Paris newspaper AL-MUSTAQBAL on 15 November, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz said Ronald Reagan's election was a good sign because Iraq will be able to predict what he intends to do. He said President-elect Reagan, who appears to be a strong-willed man, will be much better than the "weak and vacillating" President Carter, who never respected Arab rights.

Declaring that Iraq has enough arms to continue the war for a long time, 'Aziz said Iranian media have depreciated the country's military capabilities but the Iraqi forces have proved them wrong. He noted the war has united various factions in Iran but said fragmentation will occur once the people realize the promises made by the Islamic revolution have not been fulfilled. 'Aziz also cited differences in the Iranian leadership which would aid this fragmentation. Iran is not suffering any shortage of spare parts, 'Aziz added, because it is receiving them from the Netherlands, the DPRK Turkey and Pakistan, among others.

Tunisia

At a press conference on 17 November, reported by Tunis radio, a Foreign Ministry official claimed that a Tunisian Army patrol fired on a Libyan police vehicle that had intruded into Tunisia near Sidi at-Tawi and drove it back across the border. The official expressed concern at the frequency of such incidents and said the Libyan charge d'affaires will be summoned to hear Tunisia's position on this matter. He also expressed concern at the large Libyan buildup near the border, calling it "rather alarming."

Kabul radio reported textually the series of resolutions adopted on 11 November by the Fourth Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee after the visit of General Secretary Babrak Karmal to the Soviet Union. The PDPA Central Committee expressed its pleasure with Karmal's visit and his talks with the Soviet leaders, "held in an atmosphere of sincerity, comradely frankness and full understanding." It thanked the Soviet Union for its "disinterested and all-round assistance" to Afghanistan and for the efforts of Soviet soldiers in their "heroic accomplishment of their internationalist duty."

Turning to internal affairs, the Central Committee noted shortcomings among party and government organs in their efforts to improve industrial and agricultural production, with many institutions producing "little work and fewer products," especially in coal and oil extraction. It blamed this situation on "inefficient action" against counter-revolutionary elements, dissension among party members and a weakness in political training, a theme touched on in a speech by Karmal on 13 November to PDPA activists.

One proposal called for the formation of a "fatherland front" and the strengthening of the party organization. Stronger ties with the people must be formed, it said, and every full and candidate member must improve his efforts. Party committees should not allow "baseless and illogical" changes among their membership, the Central Committee declared, warning that "resolute investigations" would be conducted of any full or candidate party members who fail to follow party guidelines.

The Central Committee also called on party and government workers to direct their efforts toward improving the economy and to ensure the provision of adequate food supplies. It urged more attention to ideological activities to explain the party's position and "maximum use" of the country's media for propaganda work.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 224 *18 November 1980*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

CTK Interviews Karmal on Economic Development C 1
Text of PDPA Central Committee Fourth Plenum Resolutions C 2
Reportage on Rebel Activities by Kabul, Western Sources C 5
Herat Groups Captured C 5
Herat Rebel Activities Curtailed [London DAILY TELEGRAPH 17 Nov] C 6
Badakhshan Skirmish C 6
LE MONDE: Disorganization, Factionalism C 6

IRAN

Khomeyni Speech to Police Academy Graduates I 1
Khomeyni Receives Iraqi Youths Being Sent To Front I 2
Groups Demonstrate Support for Khomeyni I 2
Qom Demonstration I 2
Shiraz Telegram I 3
Guards Support I 4
Budapest Interviews Montazeri on War, Hostages I 4
Rafsanjani Speaks on Hostages Prior to Departure I 6
Rafsanjani, Deputies Depart I 7
Stopover in Istanbul I 7
Bani-Sadr Statement on National Unity I 8
Bani-Sadr, Officers Hold Meeting in Khuzestan I 8
Beheshti Delivers Speech on Need for Unity I 8
Mokri: 'Assurance in Practice' Sought From USSR [KEYHAN 11 Nov] I 9
Chamran Interviewed on Role of Popular Forces I 12
Foreign Ministry Statement on Assaults on Kuwait I 13
Foreign Ministry Statement on Iraqi Chemical Warfare I 13
Detention of Medical Team By Iraq Protested I 14
Washington Muslims Express Support for Iran I 14
Saudis Demonstrate in Washington, Call for AWACS' Removal I 14
Trial of Alleged U.S. Embassy Informant Begins [KEYHAN 4 Nov] I 15
AFP: Mojahedin Leader Sentenced as Soviet Spy I 15
Warrants for Additional Arrests I 16
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communiques 297-299 I 16
297: Air, Naval Operations 16 Nov I 16
298: Iraqi Losses At Susangerd I 17
299: Air Operations 17 Nov I 18
Revolution Guards Issue Communique on 11-17 Nov Operations I 19
Islamic Troops Break Through to Susangerd I 19
Liberation of City I 20
Ahvaz Radio Announces New Transmission Hours I 20

CTK INTERVIEWS KARMAL ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD172300 Prague CTK in English 1904 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Kabul, 17 Nov (CTK)--The undeclared war against Afghanistan and the criminal and terrorist actions committed in our country by bandits and mercenaries trained and armed by American imperialism, world reaction and Chinese hegemonism, adversely affect the country's development in all respects, Babrak Karmal has told the CETEKA correspondent here.

Naturally, this does not mean that the revolutionary implementation of our plans could be halted. The party and the government, supported by the people and with its all-round cooperation, are resolved to continue implementing these plans with undiminished intensity and revolutionary enthusiasm, whatever may stand in our way, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolution Council and Afghan premier added.

Asked what are the possibilities of a political settlement of problems which arose between the Afghan Democratic Republic and its neighbours--Pakistan and Iran, Babrak Karmal continued: "Although we have successfully crushed big groupings and units of bandits sent to us from the outside, we have always favoured a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, and in direct talks with our neighbours have on different occasions urged them to solve our problems by peaceful means."

Babrak Karmal noted that Afghanistan's proposals of last May 14 "were welcomed by all peace-loving states and forces all over the world, but our neighbours have not responded positively in any respect. We still do not exclude the possibility of a political settlement," he added.

Asked to assess the results of the 3rd Plenary Session of the People's Democratic Party Central Committee, which discussed primarily the struggle against counterrevolution and strengthening of the party unity, Babrak Karmal stated that it has "extraordinary importance in the process of revolutionary development in Afghanistan, and especially in its new stage." "Almost six months after the start of the new phase of the revolution our revolutionary party and government, having coped with some urgent and vital initial problems, have taken concrete steps to resolutely purge our homeland of the counter-revolutionaries being sent to us from abroad." The session adopted a number of military and political measures in this respect. The broad popular masses, actively involved in the implementation of social and economic changes, in overcoming obstacles in transport and solving food problems, have greatly contributed to the success of the revolution.

The successful implementation of the party and state policy in the interest of the broad popular masses deprived the counterrevolutionaries and their lackeys of their provisional bases they had set up on Afghan territory. The efficient steps taken by the party and state bodies in defence of the revolution and in the interest of crushing the counter-revolutionary bands have helped speed up the irreversible process of liquidating anti-revolutionary elements.

Babrak Karmal went on to say that the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan will soon be a united, integrated and firmly cemented party. This action unity, tested by the present turbulent times and in the joint struggle against common enemy, is further strengthening in a new upsurge, he told CETEKA.

Answering to a question on his recent visit to the Soviet Union, and the prospects of cooperation between the two countries, Babrak Karmal said that the visit of the high-level state and party delegation to the USSR was evaluated in Afghanistan as an important political event of the present time.

Its favourable results will not only benefit the interests of the two countries' nations, but also increase the international prestige of the country, help install peace, ease tensions and weaken the arms race and the cold war. "The results of the visit open up splendid and promising prospects for the life of our nation in socio-economic as well as cultural terms." In extensive branches of the national economy the Soviet Union has provided us with tremendous assistance, which played a significant role in the development of our country. Broad-ranging technical and cultural cooperation between our two countries was gradually increasing and the firm friendship which was born can be a model of unselfish assistance, good understanding, mutual respect and solidarity.

We inherited a fragmented and chaotic economic system, Babrak Karmal stated answering to a question on the results of Afghan national economy at the end of the first year of the second phase of the April Revolution. The economic difficulties and backwardness were combined with the subversive activity of counterrevolutionaries from abroad [word indistinct] increased our problems and slowed down the implementation of our plans. "However, in [word indistinct] to containing the aggression unleashed by the enemy the Afghan Democratic Republic did not spare effort for fast economic development of the country. Successful results have been attained this year in the agricultural sector of our economy," Babrak Karmal noted.

More [word indistinct], meat and karakul skins than last year have been produced and in both home and foreign trade the government (?wanted) all-round effort to create favorable conditions. In the first half of this year electric power and gas production increased by 6.2 and 6.9 percent, respectively, and sugar production by 0.8 percent over the first half of last year. Big increase was also recorded in cement and building materials production.

Asked about preparations for Afghanistan's first five-year plan of economic development and its chief goals Babrak Karmal stated that it pursues a long-term program of building a strong national economy based on progressive and modernized agriculture and heavy industry, using latest science and technology. Part of this plan will be the second phase of the agrarian reform, corresponding to the basic interests of workers in agriculture and founded on their active and practical participation. Under this plan the share of the state and mixed sector in industrial production is being increased. Favourable conditions will be created for the further participation of the private sector in strengthening the base of the national economy. A consultative economic council of the government has been set up for this purpose.

TEXT OF PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOURTH PLENUM RESOLUTIONS

LD172138 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 15 Nov 80

["Text" of the resolutions of the Fourth Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee on the visit of Babrak Karmal, secretary genral of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA, to the USSR, on government inefficiency in economic affairs and on party unity; adopted 11 November]

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee, after analysis and appraisal, has assessed the results of the official and friendly visit of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and DRA prime minister, and has completely ratified the contents of Babrak Karmal's speech and emphatically recommends the implementation of all the points of the speech as a code of conduct. The Central Committee has appraised the importance of the USSR visit and considers it to be an historic landmark for the further completion and further deepening of brotherhood and firm friendship between our parties, countries and people.

The plenum expresses the view that after the victory of the Sawr Revolution in Afghanistan, in particular in its second stage, the traditional friendly relations between the USSR and Afghanistan have been raised to the higher stages of fraternal relations, revolutionary cooperation and (?solidarity).

The PDPA Central Committee has completely confirmed the activities of Babrak Karmal during his visit to the USSR. The Central Committee expresses its pleasure at the discussions and talks, which were held in an atmosphere of sincerity, comradely frankness and full understanding, concerning the principle of aspects of Afghan-Soviet relations and their further development in accordance with the treaty of friendship, cooperation and good-neighbor relations of 1965. The talks also covered the great problems in the international situation.

The plenum attaches particularly great importance to the joint statement of the DRA, and the USSR, which expresses unanimity all topics and areas of interest and which explains the political solutions of those situations which have been created around Afghanistan.

In the deep and scientific talks between Comrades Babrak Karmal and L.I. Brezhnev all principle progressive sides and aspects of the Sawr Revolution were defined. Therefore, the PDPA Central Committee fully confirms all the results and contents of these talks.

The plenum appraises the declaration of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet--which states that the USSR will accomplish its internationalist mission vis-a-vis the people and Government of Afghanistan, led by Babrak Karmal, in achieving the complete cessation of the activities of the counterrevolutionaries, and which expresses his love for the organic unity of the PDPA's relentless struggle for the realization of the objectives of the Sawr Revolution--as an important inspiration for all members of the party and for all true patriots of Afghanistan.

The plenum states with complete pleasure that the sincere and warm welcome that was given to the leadership of our party and government by the government and people of the USSR and the results that were attained as a result of the visit of Babrak Karmal to the USSR, have been received with the complete gratitude of the Afghan people. This was supported by various strata of Afghan society.

The PDPA Central Committee expresses its deep thanks to the CPSU Central Committee, to the USSR Government and in particular to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev for his deep concern for the problems of the development of the Sawr Revolution, his true internationalist support for our country, and for the disinterested and all-round assistance given to the DRA for the economic well-being and to increase the standard of living of our people.

The Central Committee expresses its deep gratitude to the Soviet soldiers for the heroic accomplishment of their internationalist duty. The PDPA Central Committee (?announces) that the party and the DRA Government, after the victory of the Sawr Revolution and in particular after its second stage, have achieved considerable success in the struggle against the enemies of the revolution, in the strengthening of the party and in implementing socioeconomic changes.

Despite these achievements, the PDPA Central Committee states that a large number of PDPA committees, organs of state authority, ministries, departments and DRA social organizations are (?undermining) the vital and great issues of our country. Satisfactory measures are not adopted by government authorities, ministries or departments regarding the enhancement and strengthening of the DRA economy, the improvement in the affairs of government and of the private and mixed industrial sectors, the increase of agricultural products, the development and expansion of domestic and foreign trade, and the effective use of the natural wealth of our country. Most of these institutions produce little work and fewer products than the means at their immediate disposal would allow. They have not carried out their tasks in the extraction of coal and oil and in other types of fuels or in purchasing agricultural products from the peasants. There are many shortcomings in the construction programs of the transport and communication sectors. The main reasons for this situation are: the inefficient action and activity in the struggle against the counterrevolutionary elements and bandits by most of the party committees, the Armed Forces, and the state information and police organs; (?mistrust) between some full and candidate members of the PDPA; the lack of firmness and concrete instruction by the higher authorities toward the lower ranks and the weakness of the work of political training between the broad toiling masses and most of the party organizations.

In order to unite all national and patriotic forces of the country in constructive work in building a new and blossoming Afghanistan, the plenum deems it necessary that the Politburo proposal concerning the formation of the fatherland front should be supported and implemented in the near future.

The PDPA Central Committee declares:

1. The party committees, the General Directorate of Political Affairs of the DRA Armed Forces and the political affairs directorates of other departments and organizations should organize the complete study of the results of the visit of Comrade Babrak Karmal to the USSR by all full and candidate members of the party. They shall pay special attention to the speeches of Comrade Babrak Karmal and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev.

The party committees, together with the organizations of the DRA Ministry of Information and Culture, shall make maximum use of the mass media and all propaganda methods and sociopolitical work in further publicizing the visit of Babrak Karmal to the USSR and its results in view of the great importance of this visit on an international and national level for all the people, in order to resolutely expose the propaganda and inventions of our enemies who try to discredit and defame the friendship between our countries.

2. The plenum once again firmly states that the great tasks of the party and government in the legal stage of the revolution, as before, are as follows:

A. The attainment of true and organic unity of the PDPA, the unity and consolidation of its ranks and the elimination of every type of factionalism and faction. Relentless struggle against the enemies of the Sawr Revolution, the total liquidation of counter-revolutionaries, highway robbers and bandit groups, the cleansing and purification of all areas of the DRA in the coming months; and

B. The further activation of all party organizations, the heightening of the sense of their struggle and the strengthening of their effectiveness in all sides of the life of the society. This is considered to be a great task of the party organizations.

3. Under these conditions it is necessary for the PDPA to be strengthened qualitatively by (?attaining), at first hand, the support of the workers and peasants and those who are loyal to the objectives of the revolution. It should be remembered that the party can only be strengthened by forging unbreakable ties with the people and by maintaining and accomplishing its objectives through the selection and recruitment of forces from among the people. Every full and candidate member of the party shall make efforts to be firm and struggling in their daily life in furthering party policy and shall be true and active defenders of the objectives of the grand Sawr Revolution.

The party committees are dutybound to carry out the policy of the party concerning the selection and appointment of cadres. They shall not allow baseless and illogical changes in leading cadres and workers. They shall recruit all those true patriots, that is, those whose knowledge and experience can be used for the benefit of the revolution and the people and for active work. It is necessary for the party committees to strengthen party discipline and promote the role of the party control and supervision commission in this regard.

Resolute investigations shall be made by the actions of those full and candidate members of the party who do not carry out the requirements of the PDPA charter, the resolutions of the party organs and those tasks which are entrusted to them. In this connection, no consideration of their position and policy will be given.

4. It is necessary for the ministries of national defense and interior and the authorized officials of the PDPA Central Committee to take appropriate measures in [words indistinct] and party committees, in the army regarding the total accomplishment of the duties of conscription and for the organization of the polite organizations and revolutionary defense groups.

They shall maintain the resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee Third Plenum.

5. Since the question of the development of the national economy has great importance in the present development stage of the revolution, the plenum resolutely instructs the Politburo, DRA Government, ministries, party committees and party organizations to concentrate their attention on the enhancement of the DRA economy, the implementation of the basic social changes and the raising of the standard of living of the people. Therefore, they shall pay special attention to the solution of the land issue, to the elimination of feudal and prefeudal relationships and to the development of cooperative movement in the villages. They shall raise the standard of living and the well-being of the farmers. They shall improve the provisions of foodstuffs to the people of the homeland and maintain the provision of raw materials to the industrial sector. In all these areas and in the solution of all these questions, effective and maximum use shall be made of the assistance given to the DRA by the USSR and other fraternal countries.

6. The party committees and organizations should pay full and continuous attention to the improvement of the ideological activities and the political awareness and knowledge of the full and candidate members of the PDPA. These organizations should also pay full attention to the propaganda and publicity tasks carried out among the masses.

All training tasks shall be progressively developed and shall be applied comprehensively to all the people of our country, including the semiliterate and illiterate. The goals and tasks of the Sawr Revolution and the importance of the socioeconomic changes in the country shall be explained to the people. The lying propaganda shall be resolutely exposed. We shall reach our goal--that every compatriot of ours shall participate actively and consciously in the defense and expansion of the objectives of the Sawr Revolution and in the construction of a truly just society in Afghanistan.

It is necessary to make maximum use of radio and television, newspapers, motion pictures and other technical means, publicity leaflets, talks, meetings and public addresses to achieve the political enlightenment of the masses. The propagation of the policy and work of the party among the masses is the duty of every full and candidate member of the PDPA. These are the sincere and [word indistinct] explanations which seek to achieve the unity of the people in light of the accomplishment of the duties of the second stage of the Sawr Revolution.

7. The PDPA Central Committee deems it necessary that the results of this plenum shall be assessed in general and all-round meetings of provincial and city party committee activists, the primary party organizations, the Central Council of Trade Unions and the Executive Committee of the Democratic Youth of Afghanistan.

8. The control of the implementation of this resolution is the duty of the PDPA Central Committee Secretariat and its branches.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee

REPORTAGE ON REBEL ACTIVITIES BY KABUL, WESTERN SOURCES

Herat Groups Captured

LD171514 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] As a result of the activities of the security authorities and the cooperation of the noble people of the Shibian Village of Enjul district of Herat Province, a group of traitors to the homeland, who were embarking on antipopular, subversive actions on the instruction of their masters, was crushed. A number of the members of this group were captured, and various types of ammunition and arms have been seized from them.

According to another report, as a result of the activities of the security authorities of Herat Province, a number of rebels who were killing people in different parts of Herat city and were looting houses were captured with incriminating documents showing their links with foreign countries. A large quantity of arms and ammunition were seized from them.

Herat Rebel Activities Curtailed

LD171347 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Nov 80 p 1

[Bruce London dispatch: "50 Afghan Villages 'Flattened'"]

[Excerpt] New Delhi--More than 50 villages near Herat, the western gateway to Afghanistan, were reported last night to have been flattened in Russian bombing raids aimed at ending Muslim guerrilla mojahedin insurgency in the area. Hundreds of men, women and children have been killed, according to reports from reliable sources in Kabul.

The Soviet offensive around Herat apparently began several days ago, and many refugees from the area have arrived in the Afghan capital with accounts of the attack. The villages bombed were apparently suspected of providing shelter for the mojahedin who have, in the past few months, been extremely active around Herat. At one time the mojahedin guerrillas virtually controlled Herat, which is close to the Iranian border. Last night's report from Kabul suggests, however, that with the outbreak of the Gulf war, Iran is no longer providing arms and ammunition to the mojahedin in the Herat area. As a result, the insurgents have had to curtail their activities and retreat from most of the city to the villages which have now been bombed by the Russians.

Badakhshan Skirmish

LD171554 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] A gang of counterrevolutionary elements--these servants of U.S. imperialism--who were disturbing the peaceful life of the Juyku, Shah and Lidara Villages of Darwaz district of Badakhshan Province, were annihilated yesterday by the security authorities and party activists. A spokesman for the security authorities of Darwaz district said that various types of U.S., Chinese and Egyptian-made arms and a large amount of ammunition were seized from these murderers.

LE MONDE: Disorganization, Factionalism

LD171511 [Editorial Report] Paris LE MONDE in French 11 and 12 November carry parts I and II of a 4,100-word Ian Hamel report on a visit to Afghan rebels inside Afghanistan. In part I Hamel stresses the lack of coordination among the various rebel groups--monarchists, republicans, supporters of Muslim and secular groups--as a result of which the rebellion is reportedly stagnating. Hamel cites a Jami'at-e Eslami member's view on the rebels' situation: "The Americans and Europeans are not supplying us with arms. Pakistan is misappropriating the humanitarian aid...the Soviet Air Force intervenes in any clash and we do not have any missiles and, if we succeed in destroying a tank with what little we have, the Russians raze the nearest village."

In part II Hamel points out that "in the minds of most of the guerrillas inside Afghanistan, the increasingly wide divisions in the resistance groups outside the country constitute a major handicap." He quotes "one of the king's former bodyguards" as saying: "We are tired of the 'long beards' (religious leaders--Hamel note) their incompetence is leading the resistance to disaster. Unfortunately the Afghans now only trust their mullahs. They alone have not deceived them." According to a former Afghan Army officer imprisoned under former Afghan leader Taraki and released after the Soviets' arrival: "The parties no longer represent anybody, but unfortunately we are in their control. Without them we have no arms with which to fight and no money for our families. They are playing with the mojahedin like a child with a bird. They want an ignorant people in order to dominate them. They are systematically ousting officers and intellectuals, in other words all the competent people, from responsible positions."

KHOMEYNI SPEECH TO POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATES

LD171344 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 80

[17 November speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni at meeting with graduates of the Islamic Republic of Iran police academy--recorded, duration 17 minutes]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I must apologize, for I must not deliver a long speech, because doctors (?have advised me against this). I must thank you gentlemen for having come here to discuss some points. [passage indistinct]

Now the situation has been changed and, God willing, I do hope we will no longer return to the situation prevailing in the past. I hope that all you and everyone involved in people's affairs, both in the government and otherwise, would develop a spirit conducive to serving the people. From the position held by Bani-Sadr to other centers, all governments must serve the people, with the people feeling that they are working to serve their interests. If the people felt that [words indistinct] police [words indistinct] that the police do not want to impose upon them then the people would welcome the police with open arms and support them. [passage indistinct] In addition to not cooperating, the people in fact sabotaged the work of the police as much as possible, for in their views the police [words indistinct] (?to hunt them down). [passage indistinct] You should consider the fact that over the past 50 years, particularly in recent years, the people [words indistinct] how much they suffered, how much [words indistinct] and how much their leaders mistreated the people and how much the so-called security organization deprived people of their security--so much so that the people were constantly worried (?about what they did) lest they be (?arrested). This bitter taste still lingers in the people's mouths. So you carry a heavy obligation; namely, that you should replace this bitter taste with a sweet one. And this can be achieved by your action, by the action of the gendarmerie, by the action of the armed forces. It is by your actions that you can do something to make people forget the hardships [words indistinct] of the past. You should turn this bitter taste into a sweet one. [shouts of "God willing"] You should do this by your actions, your behavior, your kindness. All of you are brothers of an Islamic country; you are all brothers of one another. If we feel the experience that we are all brothers, then our behavior toward one another will be good. [passage indistinct] If one says I am the chief of police and everyone should obey me [words indistinct]. The people will be afraid every time they see you. [passage indistinct]

You must not think that the West can offer us anything; you must not think that the West will give us something which would contribute to our progress. The West cannot make use of us, unless it keeps us down. [shout of "God is great"] What they in the West are trying to do is keep us, the Islamic countries, the oppressed countries, at a low level of standing in all matters. Whatever they bring us has a colonialist nature; if they bring us medicine, it is colonial medicine; if they export drugs to us, they are colonial drugs; if they build a university for us, it would be a colonialist university. They want to build everything in such a manner as to be of benefit to them, so that we may surrender to them with our eyes and ears closed. Now that, thank God, we have managed to free ourselves from these ties and bonds, we must be very careful so as not to (?be chained again).

We should learn a lesson from the police under Mohammad Reza, from the army under Mohammad Reza [words indistinct]. You (?may not remember) [words indistinct] how it was. It was extremely harsh under Reza Shah, and it was harsh also under the second one.

When one had to go to the police to ask them to do a job for one, it was something of an ordeal because one was worried what might happen, what they might do, whereas police stations should be serving the people and taking care of their needs. They acted in that way and it (?befell upon them) what (?you have seen). We should now learn a lesson from these historical events and [words indistinct]. Brothers, [words indistinct]. If, God forbid, [words indistinct] mistreat the people it will be harmful to yourselves. The loss suffered by the oppressor by his oppression is far greater than the loss suffered by the oppressed. [passage indistinct] You will be asked about your job, your behavior, your actions.

You are policemen; do not forget God; do not ignore the day when [words indistinct]; treat your brothers correctly; treat the nation correctly. May God Almighty bless you all. [shouts of approval] I pray to God for your success. Now that your country is engaged in this war, I hope you would go to your towns and cooperate with your other brothers. God willing, very soon you will drive these (?infidels) from your country. [shouts of approval] I pray to God for your success.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES IRAQI YOUTHS BEING SENT TO FRONT

GF171330 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The leader of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, this morning received a group of Iraqi youths who completed their military training in Tehran. They are about to leave for the front to take part in the battle against the infidel Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries. During the meeting the group shouted slogans in Arabic such as: "Our struggle is Husayni, our leader is Khomeyni."

GROUPS DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR KHOMEYNI

Qom Demonstration

LD161805 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1639 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Following the imam's speech today, the bazaar and shops in the city of Qom were closed and a glorious demonstration in support of the imam's speech was staged.

Marchers followed the procession through the Qom streets and assembled (?behind the holy shrine). Hojjat ol-Eslam (Nasseri), Qom deputy [in the Majlis], delivered a speech. At the conclusion a resolution was issued and approved by the audience, the text of which is as follows:

1. Iran's Islamic revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni will continue until final victory.

2. The superpowers' imposed war will continue until the complete defeat of infidel Saddam.

3. The clergy faction which has been in the standardbearers of struggle in the history of Islam and has been [word indistinct] with the Islamic revolution of Iran is supported and confirmed.

4. We confirm and support the presidency of Mr Bani-Sadr, the government of Mr Raja'i and the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

5. We fiercely condemn the unholy alliance between the hypocrite groups and opportunists who are perplexing the dear heart of our imam.

6. The demonstration which was staged by a few hundred people in the sacred city of Qom, which was staged at the direction of known persons and factions and which was exploited by infamous newspapers, had nothing to do with the inhabitants of Qom and has been fiercely condemned by the people of Qom.

7. The declaration for a separation of religion and politics has been from [words indistinct] and elements of colonialism and has been condemned as far as our Islamic Republic is concerned.

8. We confirm and support revolutionary organs, especially the guards corps, the revolutionary courts and the Islamic parties, and we extremely hate the elements trying to weaken these organs.

Also tomorrow the city of Qom will be completely closed and its inhabitants will attend a glorious march and demonstration.

Also, a group of Qom guildsmen and bazaar merchants who will represent their fellow citizens will come to Tehran to express and renew their allegiance to Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Shiraz Telegram

GF171807 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text of telegram from Shiraz Friday Imam Ayatollah Dastgheyb to Imam Khomeyni sent on 17 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To His Holy Eminence His Excellency Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, leader of Iran's Islamic revolution: May your rank be forever lofty. Greetings. We hope the Almighty will forever protect Your Eminence from all misfortunes and may God favor us with success in safeguarding this pure and 100-percent Islamic revolution.

O, great imam, Your Excellency's exciting statements at the gathering of military cadets as always made the noble people of this province declare once again their unbreakable ties and pact with Islam and the imam. If there has been silence by the people in the face of a handful of elements, it has only been because of their preoccupation with other problems and because they did not consider all of that idle talk by a few individuals worthy of any importance.

O imam, these people will no longer be deceived and duped by outdated and jaded plots of enemies of Islam and Iran. These enemies have launched their divisive plots several times in the world of Islam. I hope they will no longer be able to utilize these treacherous and outdated plots.

I am very happy and pleased to inform Your Eminence that the noble people of Fars are prepared to sacrifice themselves for Islam and the Imam. All sectors will utilize whatever power and ability they have on this path.

In conclusion I deem it necessary to inform Your Eminence that during this imposed war the noble citizens of Shiraz have always been prepared to provide any and all types of cooperation for our war-stricken brothers and sisters. They have fulfilled their solemn obligations in this respect. May Almighty God grant Your Eminence success and good health.

[Signed] Seyyed Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb-Shirazi

Guards Support

LD161240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] The following statement was issued by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in connection with the rumors spread by the counterrevolutionaries, considering the interference by the clergy in the war affairs.

In His exalted name. Islam is the third alternative and the only way. [passage indistinct] While Iran is officially in a state of war with the United States and when the Hoseyn-like nation, from its brave and champion armed forces to its martyrdom-seeking guardsmen and its combative, weapon-carrying clergy and the ordinary people, all defend the Islamic faith and their homeland like a united body in the bloody Karbala' of Iran, the fifth column and the agents of imperialism and international Zionism are trying to damage the humane and antiblasphemy reputation of the most noble stratum of this society, the fighting clergy, by their rumourmongerings. These are the same committed and struggling clergy who, both before the revolution and after it, played the role of guiding and leading the masses and have devoted themselves to Islam and Muslims. Now, too, these rumors, like the interference of the clergy in the affairs of war, are spread by the West-loving liberals who cannot tolerate the presence of struggling clergy brothers in battlefronts, side by side with the military and guards brothers and the people. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps warns the vigilant and honorable nation of Iran to neutralize and denounce this kind of baseless propaganda and rumors by their revolutionary awareness and beware the satanical powers that want the destruction of Islam and all the powers faithful to Islam under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

BUDAPEST INTERVIEWS MONTAZERI ON WAR, HOSTAGES

LD172344 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2120 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Ayatollah Montazeri interview by correspondent Gyorgy Onodi in "Ten Minutes of Foreign Politics" program, at Montazeri's home on unspecified date; interview conducted in Persian and an unidentified language, with superimposed Hungarian translation--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Ayatollah Montezeri is, according to Iranian protocol, a very high-ranking person. He has no state office or rank but he fulfills the same office Khomeyni held until the day he was exiled. He is the ayatollah of Qom, and as such he is second to Ayatollah Khomeyni in the religious hierarchy. This is why he is also the official successor-designate. Ayatollah Montezeri, what, in your opinion, is the cause of this war and why did it break out now?

[Answer] The Iranian revolution began to spread in neighboring countries also and so [word indistinct] the interests of American imperialism in particular had been endangered. They attempted to act against us several times. It is sufficient to recall the action in Tabas, but apart from that, they attemped at least four or five coups against us. When their plans failed, one after the other, they incited the Iraqi Government against us because they knew that the Iraqis are opposed to the Iranian revolution. So the Shatt al-'Arab issue was a mere excuse.

[Question] I have heard it said that this war was to precede Khomeyni's pilgrimage to Mecca. According to reports, the imam wanted to visit the Kaba stone accompanied by 40,000-50,000 people. Is this true?

[Answer] No, I have never heard that the imam wanted to journey to Mecca.

[Question] There are also reports that Iranian intelligence foresaw the expected Iraqi attack but their warnings were not believed. How could this be?

[Answer] We were sure for about 6 months that something was being prepared against us. We received reports about a regrouping of military forces in Iraq.

[Question] Allow me to interrupt the interview for a moment. I had put forth the question based not on rumors but a high-ranking officer who talked about it in the course of a very honest debate somewhere on the western front. Others mentioned, although this was in Tehran, that the nonsensical indifference was not universal. The president of the republic, for instance, had the warehoused stocks of the army measured with a computer. If the army had until now been neglected they should at least know what weapons they had at their disposal when the war broke out. The fact is that two concepts were in conflict. The religious leaders have in mind the creation and continual strengthening of the Islamic guard and want to wage the war not with the soldiers of the regular army but with these (?patriots) and the armed population. Ayatollah Montazeri: Do you force the army into the background for tactical reasons or is this for you a matter of religious ideology?

[Answer] We can only defend the country with a force which we trust.

[Question] So do you trust the officers who were in the army during the shah's regime?

[Answer] We more or less reorganized the army. Besides, there were many officers in the army who did not agree with the policy of the shah.

[Question] At Friday's prayers you attacked the officers very strongly, saying that the army does not have suitable command at its disposal. Was this speech also addressed to the commander in chief?

[Answer] I did not want to attack the commander in chief. I only spoke to the faithful about the leaders who, for totally incomprehensible reasons, do not issue orders to attack.

[Question] The military experts expect the enemy to try to occupy Ahvaz, the entrance to the oilfields. Do you take this into account?

[Answer] We are well aware that the Americans have for the past 15 years been (?aiming to) break off Kordestan. This province has the large Iranian oilfields. Iraq is now pursuing the very same policy. Bakhtiar and (?General) [name indistinct] urged them on by saying that the Iranian Army had disintegrated and that Iraq could win in a matter of 2 or 3 days. As you can see, this is not what happened. I believe that the unfolding and stabilization of the Iranian revolution are also answers to hypotheses about the future.

[Question] One hears a lot about exporting the Iranian revolution. What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] We believe that Islam is to the benefit of mankind. If it were not hindered, Islam would arrive of its own accord. We do not want to conquer a single country but we believe that Islam is a light which shines all over the region.

[Question] Ayatollah Montazeri, what is the situation with reference to the hostages? Why do the students not hand them over to the government?

[Answer] The students have already handed the hostages over to the government. Parliament has chosen the government to settle the hostage issue. So from now on it is not the student followers of the imam's policy who are responsible for the fate of the hostages.

[Question] Rafsanjani, president of parliament, said at a press conference that if the Americans were to accept only certain conditions, only some of the hostages would be set free. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] In this event the hostages will face the courts.

[Question] While the interview is going on, there is a demonstration outside. The people are demanding that Qotbzadeh be set free. This is a little surprising since in the holy city the religious sect has absolute influence and even if Qotbzadeh went to Evin Prison with the Koran in hand he belongs to the leading personalities of the civilian sector. On account of this peculiar situation, the question is justified. Ever since the presidential election the power struggle has sharpened between the forces of the Islamic Republic Party and civilian politicians. There are many overt attacks from all sides. How do you see this power struggle?

[Answer] Naturally, there are differences in certain areas [words indistinct]. But this does happen in Iran alone and I can assure you that on the main issue, the independence of Iran, there is no debate among ourselves.

[Question] Finally allow me to ask how you would sum up the results of the Islamic revolution in Iran, now almost 2 years old?

[Answer] The greatest result is that you and I can here and now speak about these problems. We could not have done this during the shah's regime. This is the first thing. The second is that the Iraniam people, for the first time in their history, can have free elections. [passage indistinct]

RAFSANJANI SPEAKS ON HOSTAGES PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

GF171640 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani today took part in a press, radio and television conference prior to his visit to fraternal countries. He answered questions by jounalists and correspondents.

Referring to his visit to Algeria, Libya, Syria and Lebanon, the Majlis speaker said: This visit is in response to longstanding invitations from these countries. The visit will be useful for it will enable us to explain our political stands and our stand with regard to the war that has been imposed on us.

Hajjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: In view of the current critical circumstances we have come to the conclusion that it is necessary to adopt a concerted policy on current issues in the area with the brothers who have proved their friendship to us.

The Majlis speaker said: We are prepared to cooperate in all matters that will strengthen the front confronting imperialism and exploitation. Revolutionary Islamic forces should cooperate among themselves.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said: My word to all revolutionary Islamic forces is that they should be fully aware of the circumstances and seize the opportunity created by the Islamic revolution in Iran, which has destroyed imperialism's impregnable fortress in Iran. We should embark on serious and fruitful cooperation among ourselves to serve the future of Islam and the region and the oppressed of the world in general.

Referring to the hostage issue, the Majlis speaker said: The Majlis has declared its view on the hostages. The government will act in accordance with the Majlis' decision.

He said that an Algerian-Iranian joint committee is currently studying the U.S. reply and the Majlis conditions. In any case the issues are under serious discussion, he said, and we have reached the stage in which Iran has declared its final decision. The United States cannot continue its tricks but should admit that it wants to exploit the hostage issue as a pretext for persisting in its imperialist plans. The United States should also accept the facts.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani will tour Algeria, Libya, Syria and Lebanon to explain Iran's position on the war that has been imposed on it.

Rafsanjani, Deputies Depart

GF171341 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani left Tehran this afternoon at the head of a delegation that will visit the fraternal countries of Algeria, Libya, Syria and Lebanon in order to explain the stands of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Majlis speaker held a press conference prior to his tour of several Middle East countries. He answered questions by journalists and correspondents.

The Majlis speaker said that his visit to a number of Islamic countries in the Middle East in the present circumstances is useful. He said: During the visit we shall explain to the leaders of these countries our political stands and our position in the war that has been imposed on us so that we can coordinate our policy on current issues in the region with brothers whose friendship has been proved to us.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Imam Kashani, Majlis deputy and the imam's representative in the police, left Tehran today for Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Malaysia and Indonesia. He is accompanied by Majlis Deputy Brother Mottaqi. They, too, will be explaining the stands of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

Majlis Deputy Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatemi, accompanied by Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Bonn [title as heard] Mehdi Navab, today left for France, the GDR, the FRG, Britain, Yugoslavia, and Italy to explain the stands of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Stopover in Istanbul

TA172029 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The speaker of the Iranian Majlis, Hashemi Rafsanjani, stopped over in Istanbul while on his way to an official visit to Algiers. Rafsanjani and his delegation rested for a while at Yesilkoy Airport and left Istanbul at 1730.

The speaker of the Iranian Majlis will go to Tunisia after visiting Algiers.

BANI-SADR STATEMENT ON NATIONAL UNITY

LD171720 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] According to PARS, the following statement was issued tonight by Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In His exalted name. The Iranian people know that we are now locked in an all-round war against the enemies of Iran's independence and freedom. Victory in this war and the defense of the Islamic Republic cannot be achieved except through the nation's unity and solid cohesion. In the light of the sensitive nature of the situation it is deemed necessary to point out the following:

Those who show disrespect to the lofty status of the clerics at this hard juncture of the war are the enemy's fifth column. It is for the public generally not to allow such elements room to operate and to avoid the kind of action that turns the atmosphere of unity into division. The public should appreciate the crucial nature of the situation and avoid improper and divisive actions. Needless to say, expressing improper and inappropriate actions, however harmful, is one hundred times less harmful than actually carrying out such actions. The alarm bells are ringing from all directions. We must keep our ears open, listen to the sounds, and strengthen and reinforce the foundations of unity. It is possible to drive out the domestic and foreign enemies successfully--God willing.

[Signed] The president and commander in chief, Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr

BANI-SADR, OFFICERS HOLD MEETING IN KHUZESTAN

LD172052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] PARS reports that the latest situation on the war front and the military operations by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in their confrontation with the Iraqi mercenary forces were discussed at a meeting attended by Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, General Zahir Nezhad, commander of the ground forces; Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and the commander of the air force; and several army commanders. The meeting was held in one of the cities of Khuzestan.

BEHESHTI DELIVERS SPEECH ON NEED FOR UNITY

LD181100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0737 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Speech by Ayatollah Mohammad Hoseyn Beheshti at Tehran University--live]

[Excerpt] Today, on the occasion of Tasu'a [9th of Muharram, the day before the martyrdom of Imam Hoseyn, the third Shi'a imam], I will speak about discord and unity. Unity is needed more than anything else in order to continue the revolution. The imam of the nation has repeatedly stressed the need for unity, and you heard his recent cry from the bottom of his heart on this issue. All understand that the revolution at this sensitive juncture--and in all sensitive moments in the future--depends solely on unity among the ranks of the forces committed to the Islamic revolution. No member of the revolutionary forces has the slightest doubt on this issue. Basically, when you study the Koran, you find that this book of guidance of our revolution has always rejected any discord which might lead to a break in our unity and has urged all of us to try to become united as one solid force.

We know that even those who are in love with the truth and righteousness, those who want to be pious slaves of God and who are ready to sacrifice their lives for truth and justice sometimes find themselves in dispute with one another. Their disputes are over the question of who is right, which group is a follower of the truth, and which figure and personality is the symbol of truth. Therefore, the basic problem is to find ways to reach unity. How can we solve the problem of discord?

Today in my short speech I would like to count problems which might create discord and then we shall find out if there are any ways open to us to solve all present and future disputes. Can we break these deadlocks?

Two kinds of disputes might arise in the Islamic front of Iran. One is the difference of opinion on recognition of Islam, its principles and the Islamic duties. The second is the difference of opinion on ways of running the affairs of the country and recognition of the responsibilities, duties and limits of authority of the officials and foundations.

In the first instance, meaning the dispute over recognition of Islamic teachings and duties, we have three subjects, a difference of opinion might arise on three points: first, in the field of beliefs and teachings of Islam; second, in the field of principles, duties, commandments and unlawful acts in personal or social matters which do not have any legal implications--social issues for which no laws have been passed and are not within the scope of government duties; and third, differences in the field of teachings and commandments which are regarded as laws regulations--those Islamic teachings which in an Islamic government should be embodied in laws and regulations. [passage indistinct]

The president, the prime minister and his Cabinet and the Islamic Consultative Assembly can perform their duties within the frameworks of (?religion) and the Constitution; and there will be no discords and disputes. Therefore, all the segments of the society, all groups and organizations, all individuals parties and all the societies are duty-bound and able to create a united and cohesive Islamic front on the basis of guarding and supporting the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. And no individual, no foundation, no segment of the society, no organization and no group will be able to penetrate the united, solid and cohesive ranks of our heroic nation in favor of the enemy.

This was a summary of my speech today. There is another issue about the clergy and their roles. I must also mention problems created by the enemy against this social foundation. With the help of God, on Thursday, the day after tomorrow, at 1030 these brothers will hold a session at the entrance of the bazaar, as they have already requested. There they will be at the service of our noble people, and I postpone my discussion on the clergy until Thursday. I shall talk about this issue at that place in full detail.

MOKRI: 'ASSURANCE IN PRACTICE' SOUGHT FROM USSR

LD171501 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 11 Nov 80 p 11

[Text] In an exclusive interview with a KEYHAN correspondent last week, Iran's Ambassador to the Soviet Union Dr Mohammad Mokri, who is now in Tehran, gave his views on a variety of problems affecting the USSR and Iran, particularly the USSR's vague policy toward the war imposed by Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He first made the following remarks on the question of USSR arms aid to Iraq:

"I have reminded the Soviet authorities many times that this is an important issue, of concern to ourselves and to the Soviet Government, and one to which the Soviet Government should give some consideration; they should view our Islamic revolution with more honesty and with more regard for its consequences.

Although we can dispense with approval or rejection from the superpowers, we believe that they should not only support the revolution verbally but prove their support by their actions. We cannot accept, therefore, that, at a time when we do not receive arms from any country, a country like the USSR should in practice give Mig's and missiles to the enemy and counterrevolutionaries for the destruction of our cities, and strategic and nonstrategic positions. For us this is a very grave matter, and something we cannot tolerate. The issues at stake are, of course, much greater and more profound than this."

In reply to the question: "What in general has the Soviet Union's policy been regarding the Iraqi aggression against Iran in this war, and why has its government not condemned this aggression so far?", Dr Mokri said:

"This is a matter to which some thought must be given, a matter which must be analyzed; it is not something that can be explained in a few words. I hope to hold a local or international press conference in order to speak of such matters and provide the analysis. However, the point is that we asked the Soviet Union to condemn this aggression officially and publicly and to issue an official or semi-official statement on the cessation of arms supplies by the Soviet Government, but this has not happened so far. Nevertheless, since our revolution was carried out in a calculated manner and we are trying as far as we can to establish mutual understanding with our neighbors, we shall continue to strive to reach an understanding without evincing the slightest degree of weakness so long as they resort to arms. A point which we regard as important at this juncture in time is the direction to be taken by the Soviet Union. If this runs counter to the interests of our nation it is something which history and our future generations will never forget. We have not forgotten that during the period of our oil nationalization the Soviet Government, which is a superpower, did not buy oil from us, or that it gave gold to the shah's government after the coup d'etat [of 1953] at a time when our nation was in great need of it; this is something which our nation is still conscious of and which weighs heavily on our relations with the Soviet Union. And now again, if they do not clarify where they stand in this war, it will be remembered for many years to come."

Dr Mokri added: "We expect the Soviet Government, the government of a resourceful superpower, to be more shrewd and to realize that it is up against a country and a nation whose people understand and who are well able to judge its deeds and moves. I shall naturally be saying as much to the government and if I am assured that my remakrs will not upset them, I should give you the analysis; I am confident that my comments will be effective, useful and informative for the future revolutionary generations and for the people.

The Iranian ambassador to the Soviet Union was questioned on the effect on Soviet policy toward Iran of the freeing or continued detention of the hostages. In reply, he stated:

"The Soviet Government, or the government of any superpower, only pays attention to us and accepts our revolution to the extent that it is in its interests to do so. The Soviet Government always defends our anti-imperialistic stance strongly, but never has much to say about the Islamic side. The Soviet Union states through its media that our revolution is anti-imperialist and reflects only the anti-American aspect of our struggle, while I have said repeatedly, and the press has reiterated, that it is the defense of the under privileged and support for them which has evolved as one of our main principles; however, neither the Soviet Union nor the other superpowers ever refer to this.

As regards the question of the closure of the Iranian and Soviet Consulates in Leningrad, Rasht and Esfahan, and the reasons on both sides for all these things, Dr Mokri said:

"First I must thank the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry for putting my proposals into effect; they really did follow them up. After I visited the imam and received the necessary instructions from him, and since I was unable to pursue any policy other than the one which the revolution and the people expect of us, we sat down to review the situation and saw that our consulate in Leningrad was a mere formality and for outward show, and in view of the heavy burden of costs it was incurring, we were not in practice deriving any benefit from it. This was why we asked the Soviet Government, in view of the fact that our relations were slow on a new basis and because of the close historical and cultural ties we enjoy with some of the Islamic republics of the Soviet Union, to transfer this consulate to one of the republics of Tadzhikistan, Uzbekistan, Dagestan, etc., without the slightest supposition that we intended to interfere in their internal affairs. The Soviet cultural authorities strongly opposed these proposals, however, and apparently imagined that we harbored evil motives; at any rate, they would not agree, and since we did not wish to incur further expense, we held talks with the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry, and told the Soviets to close down one of their consulates in Iran equivalent to the Iranian Consulate in Leningrad. Mistakes were made in the matter, and instead of closing down their consulate in Rasht, they proceeded to close their consulate-general in Esfahan, which was the equivalent to our consulate-general in Baku. However, in a note, I subsequently corrected this, and we reminded them that since it was possible that because of the extensive common land and sea borders in the north, certain interpretations might be put on this action, it was better that the Rasht consulate should be closed, and we published an announcement to this effect in the Iranian newspapers on 25 August.

In reply to the question: "What have you done at ambassadorial level while you have been at your post in the Soviet Union to acquaint the Soviet Muslim people with the Islamic revolution?", Dr Mokri said:

"From the first days when we were sent to work [in the Soviet Union] we found ourselves up against a host of problems, but with the help of God, we stood firm and we had remarkable success in a variety of areas. For example, our efforts to create general understanding there resulted in the Soviet Union refraining from participating in the economic sanctions against Iran, and it may have been that providence willed that we might have success, in a country like the Soviet Union, in acquainting them with the Islamic revolution. I can state that when I first took up the post in Moscow there were only five or six old men to be found in the mosques of the Muslim areas, but with the efforts of the Iranian Embassy and other representative organizations, we succeeded in establishing regular Friday prayer services attended by a large number of the Muslim population. This continues to astonish the ambassadors from other Islamic countries. I recall that at just one of these prayer services, there were 1,400 girls over 14 years old present.

"Another problem is that there are attacks in the Iranian newspapers most of the time on the highest Soviet authorities, and criticism of them appears, which naturally causes problems for us since we represent Iran. However, with the experience I have gained over the years, I have largely succeeded in acquainting them with the fact that in Iran the newspapers are free and what they print does not necessarily reflect the views of the government, while the controlled press of the Soviet Union prints the views of their government, and even if they do quote something that is untrue, we can do the same [as published].

The Iranian ambassador to the Soviet Union then touched on the ostracization of the Iraqi ambassador in the Soviet Union and the disclosures of the Ba'th regime's crimes, including the martyring of the Ayatollah Mohammad Baqi as-Sadr and his sister, a fact admitted by their ambassador at the Bandung conference.

Dr Mokri said: "At all conferences held in the Soviet Union and attended by ambassadors from the Islamic countries, the Iraqi ambassador tries to keep out of our sight, while even the ambassadors from other Islamic countries such as Jordan and Saudi Arabia keep away from the Iraqi ambassador when we are around."

Dr Mokri then referred again to the problem of the dispatch of arms by the Soviet Government to Iraq and the naked aggression of the Ba'thist regime against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said: "From the first day of the war we requested the Soviet Government to stop the dispatch of arms to Iraq; we said that arms which should be used against the Zionist regime of Israel should not be given to our enemy--that is, Iraq and local counterrevolutionaries and foreigners--by a country which considers itself to be Iran's friend and neighbor, since first, arms are for defense, and not for attack, and second they should not be used against defenseless and innocent people, whom international laws protect from such attacks. And third, the Soviet Union Government should not allow Iraq to sell arms to counterrevolutionaries on the borders of Iran in order to kill people and create unrest. For the same reasons, we are thankful to the Soviet Union when it declares its neutral stance in this war, but we must be assured in practice that the Soviet Government is not providing Iraq with arms, although we are 100-percent confident that we shall be victorious in the struggle against the onslaughts of Saddam, and that neither the superpower America, whose use of force is evident, and other superpowers, who use force in an underhand manner, can succeed in accomplishing anything against us."

On economic relations between the USSR and Iran, Dr Mokri said: "Our economic relations with the Soviets continue to subsist on the basis of the talks we had in the early days, when we said that such relations must coincide with our interests and that the bribes received by the superpowers under the shah had stopped."

On whether or not a new agreement had been made with the Soviet Union, Dr Mokri said: "We have made no new agreements with the Soviet Government since the revolution, and only the projects in the [past] protocols are being implemented.

CHAMRAN INTERVIEWED ON ROLE OF POPULAR FORCES

LD180735 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0444 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] Yesterday afternoon PARS managed to arrange an interview with Dr Mostafa Chamran, the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, while driving a vehicle seized from the Iraqis on the Susangerd front. Dr Chamran, who has been commanding an efficient and skillful guerrilla group in the operations for the liberation of the occupied section of Susangerd, was wounded in the foot during yesterday's severe battles and is now undergoing hospital treatment.

According to the PARS report, Dr Chamran's condition is satisfactory and there is no cause for worry.

In the interview with the PARS correspondent, he pointed out the role of the popular forces, the local resistance nuclei, and the forces of faith--this driving force of the combatants of Islam--and thanked all the defenders of the revolution for their bravery and the full cooperation carried out in yesterday's war operations.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON ASSAULTS ON KUWAIT

LD171750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The following statement was issued tonight by the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with reports and rumors alleging that Iranian aircraft have violated Kuwaiti airspace:

In His exalted name. Iraq's enmities toward all the regional neighboring nations are not something that is concealed from anyone, and the frequent expressions of greed, coupled with the occasional Baghdad aggression against Kuwaiti territory aimed at undermining the territorial integrity and the independence of that country are but a small example of the aforementioned enmities. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran declares that if the regional countries today witness Iraq being temporarily tamed and its pretention to friendship toward them, they will certainly not lose sight of the fact that only the circumstances stemming from the war with the Islamic Republic of Iran have impelled the Iraqi regime to put on such an appearance so as to strengthen its shaky political and military position, and indeed no friendly sentiment draws Iraq toward the countries of the region.

In connection with the allegation on violation of Kuwaiti airspace, one must say that our policy is not based on aggression and it will not be so, and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has never entertained nor will it ever entertain any speedy designs against the neighboring territory, including Kuwait. And the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran respects the territorial integrity of Kuwait. And we are only engaged in a war that the Iraqi regime has imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON IRAQI CHEMICAL WARFARE

LD171908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in connection with the savage attacks of the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist forces and the bombing of the residential areas in Iran, has issued the following statement:

In His exalted name. It has been proved to all nations of the world, including the Ba'thist regime, that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with the sublime Islamic teachings and in respect for the international treaties concerning war, despite the bombing of our residential areas and the use of deadly surface-to-surface missiles against our cities, have never used un-Islamic methods and have never attacked nonmilitary or nonstrategic targets in Iraq. However, the infidel Iraqi regime, being aware of the position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, allows itself to regard every savagery as being legitimate. In addition to slaughtering innocent people in Iranian cities and villages merely because they are Arabs [as heard] and their collaboration with the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in defending their homeland, the Iraqis make use of deadly chemical weapons and incendiary bombs against the defendants, regardless of their being military or civilian.

From the beginning of the imposed war, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been aware of the activities of certain units of the Iraqi mercenary forces who have made preparations for using chemical, germ and biological weapons. However, it could not be imagined that the mercenary Iraqi forces would engage in such savagery as to make use of these weapons against military and civilian positions. Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran regards this crime as the start of the use of germ and biological weapons by the Iraqi Armed Forces which the Iraqi Armed Forces have been busy preparing since the seventies.

Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran warns the vigilant conscience of the nations of the world of this matter and also requests the United Nations Organization, the International Red Cross and all responsible organizations to strongly reprimand the Iraqi regime and to halt the Iraqi regime from continuing this inhuman crime.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasizes that if these inhuman and immoral actions continue, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will not remain indifferent to these savage acts.

DETENTION OF MEDICAL TEAM BY IRAQ PROTESTED

LD171108 Tehran PARS in English 0815 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Tehran, 17 Nov (PARS)--In a telegram to the Red Cross headquarters in Geneva, the Iranian Red Crescent protests the arrest and detention of four members of an Iranian medical team by Iraqi forces. The team was at the field hospital of Darkhovin en route to Abadan when they were ambushed and taken within Iraqi borders. The telegram request the headquarters of the International Red Cross to endeavor to secure the release of this medical team.

WASHINGTON MUSLIMS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR IRAN

GF151631 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] According to a report received by the radio and television of the Islamic Republic of Iran from Wahington, U.S. Muslims staged a demonstration at the Islamic Center in Washington after Friday prayers. The demonstration started on Massachusetts Avenue, on which the Islamic center is located. The demonstrators stopped outside the premises of the Washington POST and a 15-minute speech was delivered. The paper was called "Zionist" and condemned for its lies and accusations against the city's Muslim community. The speaker also called for retraction of the POST's articles.

After the speech, anti-imperialist slogans were voiced against the United States and U.S. media. The demonstrators gathered outside the Federal Bureau of Investigation and expressed full support for the Islamic, Palestinian and Afghan revolutions by chanting "God is great; there is no god but God."

SAUDIS DEMONSTATE IN WASHINGTON, CALL FOR AWACS' REMOVAL

GF171715 Abadan NIOC Radio in Arabic 1930 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Reports from Washington say the Saudi community in the United States organized a large demonstration in Washington which lasted about 3 hours. Muslim Americans held similar demonstrations at the same time and chanted "God is great, God is great; there is no God but God; long live the Islamic revolution in Iran; remove the AWACS planes from Muslim countries; death to U.S. imperialism; arise, O oppressed people; we support the Islamic revolution in Iran; we have not forgotten the mojahedin's massacre in the Arabian Peninsula." They also denounced the criminal actions of the agents of U.S. imperialism in the region. The demonstrators chanted the slogans in English.

TRIAL OF ALLEGED U.S. EMBASSY INFORMANT BEGINS

LD181005 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 4 Nov 80 p 4

[KEYHAN local news service report: "Trial of an American Spy Begins"]

[Text] The trial began in branch 4 of the Islamic revolution court at Evin [Prison] of Jewish Doctor of Law Simon Farzami, son of Ya'qub, domiciled in Switzerland and resident in Tehran, aged 67, by profession an unofficial Persian-French translater [i.e. not accredited by Justice Ministry].

First, the Islamic revolution central prosecutors office representative read out the indictment against the accused, who then proceeded to defend himself. The indictment read in part as follows:

"When reassembled, the shredded documents found at the former American Embassy by the students following the imam's line revealed that Simon Farzami was in contact with the aforementioned embassy and was giving them information they required.

"The intelligence value of the material passed was such that he came to be regarded as a reliable source, and it was emphasised that he was to be consulted for behind-the-scenes information. The accused was arrested following the revelation of his identity, and important documents were found during a search at his home. The evidence obtained and the personal confession of the accused revealed that he had photocopied letters and correspondence written by important state personages; there were also invitations to foreign embassies and identification cards [kart-e shenasa'i]. His passport showed that he had travelled to Europe and America many times, and there were also a large quantity of evidence and many documents containing encoded words and indicating meetings with American Embassy staff, in particular with Richard [no surname given]. Other documents revealed the manner in which contact was made, and contained names, aliases, dates of meetings and details of precautions to be taken to prevent interception while meetings were taking place. There were also papers which referred to the passing of information on the identity of PLO delegation members. "All these documents were shredded while the embassy was being seized, but were subsequently put together with much difficulty and with great care. To make good his escape, the accused sent his wife a 1,000,000 rial draft, which is appended to the dossier."

After the indictment had been read, the shar' [religious law] magistrate warned that "in the Islamic revolution court, only honesty and truthfulness can affect your fate."

The accused then proceeded to defend himself, rejecting the substance of the charges of the indictment.

At 1200 noon, the court adjourned until yesterday at 1600 hours.

AFP: MOJAHEDIN LEADER SENTENCED AS SOVIET SPY

NC151923 Paris AFP in English 1906 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] Tehran, 15 Nov (AFP)--Mohammad Reza Sa'adati, one of the main leaders of the restricted Iranian Mojahedin People's Party, was today sentenced by an Islamic court to 10 years in prison on charges of spying for the Soviet Union, Iranian television said. There is no constitutional right to appeal an Islamic court sentence.

Mr Sa'adati, 36, immediately denounced the court ruling. He had denied the charge in court when conducting his own defence.

In a statement to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE he said: "I completely disagree with this sentence and, when I know its justification, I will protest." "This sentence is unjust because Sa'adati has not committed any crime," his lawyer, Abdolkarim Lahidji, said.

Mr Sa'adati was arrested in April, 1979, and was charged with having contacted a Soviet journalist "for spying purposes."

Both presiding Judge Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Hoseyn Musavi, deputy for Tabriz, and the prosecutor said the charges were based on Mr Sa'adati's notes, which they said showed that he had clandestinely given documents to the journalist.

In one note, read in court by the prosecutor and identified as Mr Sa'adati's, the accused mentioned "a proposition to the USSR that makes good Iran's debt and offers technical installations for the Iranian revolution."

Defending the charge alone, Mr Sa'adati read a report from his organization, entrusting him with "explaining the national and Islamic positions of the party and the revolution to which Soviets in the past did not pay sufficient attention." The document also said Mr Sa'adati was to obtain information about the activities of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in Iran.

All public demonstrations by the party and its publications are banned in Iran. Mr Sa'adati's lawyer said he was unable to act as defence counsel because he was denied access to necessary court documents. This blocked his participation in the trial without officially banning it, the lawyer said. The lengthy trial, filled with legal snarls, (?was adjourned) twice. It started up again on Tuesday, with four sessions being held this week at Tehran's Evin Prison.

Warrants for Additional Arrests

NC171943 Paris AFP in English 1905 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Tehran, 17 Nov (AFP)--Tehran's revolutionary Islamic tribunal has issued a warrant for the arrest of all the main leaders of the Iranian Mojahedin People's Party on charges related to the conviction Saturday of another party leader accused of espionage, ETTELA'AT newspaper reported here today.

Mohammad Reza Sa'adati was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on charges of spying for the Soviet Union.

Other mojahedin leaders, allegedly implicated in Mr Sa'adati's case, failed to appear in court when called upon to testify at the trial, the ISLAMIC REVOLUTION newspaper reported here quoting the court's public prosecutor.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 297-299

297: Air, Naval Operations 16 Nov

LD171328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Communique 297 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. O Muslim and combative compatriots: Your brother soldiers in the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran during their just fight against evil on 16 November delivered the following blows to the enemy:

Air Force Operations:

1. Operations outside the country: The heroic fighters of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, during their repeated attacks on targets inside Iraq, delivered the following blows at the enemy:

A. They destroyed 20 percent of the installations of Choman garrison in the north of Iraq and 10 percent of the power station adjacent to the garrison. They also destroyed a part of the expanded forces near the (Tamamzian) garrison in the northeast of Iraq.

B. They destroyed a number of vehicles and trenches in the south of Sulaymaniyah, the extent of the destruction is not clear.

C. They destroyed 20 percent of the enemy supply forces in the Al-Halfayah-Faquah axis and destroyed 10 percent of the enemy supply forces in the Al Kut-'Amarah axis.

D. They destroyed two ships in Umm Qasr port and destroyed a number of Safwan customs gasoline stations in the extreme south of Iraq. They destroyed a number of trucks carrying fuel in the north of Safwan customs.

E. They destroyed two fuel tanks and the central building of the oil installations of Al-faw port in the south of Iraq.

II. Operations inside the country:

A. They destroyed a number of enemy armored vehicles, artillery and personnel in the southwest of (Aumar) in the west of Iran; and exact extent of the damage is not known.

B. They destroyed seven enemy trucks near Susangerd.

C. They destroyed enemy artillery and a number of enemy personnel in the west of Abadan, the extent of which has not been determined.

D. They completely destroyed an enemy cargo ship in the north of Khuninshahr [Khorramshahr].

Naval Operations

Thanks to the artillery fire by the warriors of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the Abadan, (Dobbe-e Hardan), and Susangerd fronts, 2 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 4 vehicles--one of which was carrying ammunition--1 trench, 2 canons and 1 mortar-launcher of the aggressive forces were destroyed, and more than 120 of the enemy personnel were killed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

298: Iraqi Losses at Susangerd

LD171818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Communique 298 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim and revolutionary Iranian compatriots: The brave fighters of the Airborne Division of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in their heroic battle in the Susangerd region today, 17 November, inflicted the following losses and damage upon the enemy:

A. Equipment damage:

1. The complete destruction of 37 tanks;
2. The complete destruction of 6 large-caliber guns;
3. The complete destruction of 4 self-propelled guns, and the complete destruction of a katyusha gun;
4. The complete destruction of 3 antiaircraft guns;
5. The complete destruction of one personnel carrier and the complete destruction of a large ammunition store.

B. Losses of the enemy personnel in Susangerd front:

More than 200 of the forces of blasphemy have been killed and more than 80 of them have been wounded. Meanwhile, the fighters of the Islamic forces in Ahvaz region today shot at one encroaching Iraqi MiG-23 which crashed in the region of the Kut 'Abdollah post in Ahvaz.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

299: Air Operations 17 Nov

LD181150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1052 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Communique 299 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim and combative compatriots: The self-sacrificing combatants of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on Monday, 17 November, during their fighting and surveillance operations guarding the airspace of the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, achieved the following results:

A. Operations Supporting Our Own Forces

1. Destruction of a number of tanks and vehicles of the enemy forces in the region of Susangerd;

2. Attack on an advancing column heading for Susangerd; the enemy sustained considerable blows;

3. Bombing part of the logistic forces, artillery and antiaircraft positions of the Iraqi Army among the date palm plantations near the western part of Abadan.

B. Air Attacks Inside Iraqi Territory

1. Bombing a military garrison and positions of the mercenary forces of Iraq in the region of (Shomalghav), in the southeastern region of Iraq;

2. Attack on military forces in the Shu'aybah-umm ar-Rasas axis and bombing of military installations, a missile base and artillery and tank positions of the enemy in the same region. The degree of damage and loss is not clear;

3. Destruction of part of the oil pipelines and installations around the Al-Faw docks.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to thank all the popular forces, the revolution guards corps, the self-sacrificing warriors of the 92d Division of Ahvaz, the Airborne Division, the air force and other brave combatants of the ground forces, who have shown great courage during the victorious operations on the Susangerd front and during the operation to cleanse this city from the existence of blasphemous forces. It is hoped that these self-sacrifices and donations of blood will be favorably considered by the imam and the Muslim and revolutionary nation of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

REVOLUTION GUARDS ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON 11-17 NOV OPERATIONS

LD180948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Unnumbered communique issued by the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps brothers in Dezful carried out the following operations against the Ba'thist infidels to the west of the Karkheh River from 11 to 17 November:

The brave children of Islam attacked Ba'thist mercenaries on 11 November and killed more than 20 aggressors and destroyed some of their vehicles. The brother guards on 12 November in an ambush operation to the west of Karkheh managed to kill more than 20 infidels and destroy some armored vehicles. The guard brothers on the morning of 17 November attacked a communications tracing unit and dealt such a heavy blow at the aggressive enemy that the Ba'thist mercenaries did not even dare collect the bodies of their officers until hours later; 23 mercenaries were killed in this ambush. On their return the revolution guards destroyed one Iraqi vehicle and killed all its occupants. Also, in a series of courageous operations they captured four of the forces of blasphemy and destroyed a number of light and heavy weapons and sound-detecting devices equipped with radar.

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Iran

ISLAMIC TROOPS BREAK THROUGH TO SUSANGERD

LD171146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1102 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Dear listeners: Please pay attention to a news report which was just handed to me:

On the basis of the latest reports received from PARS at 1410, the brave Islamic forces have succeeded in entering Susangerd and in joining the heroic defenders and guards. Supported by the airborne units, our forces inflicted considerable damage on the enemy on the Susangerd front.

According to a very reliable source, the enemy is on the brink of annihilation on this front.

The Central News Bureau reports that 12 enemy tanks have been destroyed on this front and an infidel ammunition dump is ablaze. Moreover, 15 serviceable enemy vehicles have been captured. Also, according to an informed source at the Ahvaz war headquarters, eight enemy tanks have been bogged down in mud.

Liberation of City

LD171748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1650 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] PARS and the Central News Bureau reported this afternoon that the defenders of the Islamic revolution, after a fateful battle today completely cleansed the city of Susangerd of the existence of the enemies of the revolution and expelled in disgrace Saddam's mercenaries from the positions which they had occupied in the ever-valiant city of Susangerd. A number of enemy personnel were also captured and the enemy forces suffered heavy losses.

According to a Central News Bureau report, the enemy has retreated 15 km from the city and the city is now under the complete control of our heroic forces.

After 3 days of valiant and epic-making resistance by the defenders of Susangerd, this afternoon our valiant forces', supported by the Airforne Division and the arrival of reinforcements for the defenders of the city, defeated the cowardly enemy, who abandoned a large number of weapons while retreating from Susangerd.

According to PARS, Brigadier General Fallahi, the acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this afternoon visited the city of Susangerd and talked to the fighting army forces and the guards and the valiant defenders of the city and praised their all-encompassing efforts.

This afternoon the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: The city of Susangerd, by exhibiting self-sacrifice and devotion and by giving dozens of martyrs from the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the defenders of the Islamic revolution, was liberated in a series of valiant operations. At the moment the fighters of Islam are in control of the city.

In connection with the defeat of the forces of blasphemy on the Susangerd front, the self-sacrificing revolution guards of the Islamic revolution of Iran announced in a statement: The brothers from the guards corps and the fighters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran today, with complete cooperation and coordination, succeeded in breaking the seige of the infidels in an epic attack, losing only one martyr. After cleansing the city of the filth of the existence of these mercenaries of Saddam, our forces managed to push them back [word indistinct] and are still pursuing them. In these operations 10 enemy tanks were destroyed and 6 tanks and 7 ammunition trucks and a large number of heavy and light weapons were seized from the enemy. In addition, 16 of Saddam's mercenaries were captured by the revolution guards and a large number of the forces of blasphemy were killed.

AHVAZ RADIO ANNOUNCES NEW TRANSMISSION HOURS

GF071557 [Editorial Report] Ahvaz Domestic Service in Arabic at 1430 GMT on 7 November carries the following announcement: "This is Ahvaz, the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the voice of the earth's oppressed. Honorable listeners: We will transmit our programs tonight from 1800 [1430 GMT] until 2000 [1630 GMT]." During its transmission the radio reminds listeners several times of the new transmission hours.

Since September the radio has been broadcasting in Persian, occasionally interrupting its Persian language transmission to broadcast talks, exhortations to the Iraqi Army and Khuzestan Arabs, translations of Khomeyni speeches or messages and songs in Arabic. These broadcasts were 20 to 30 minutes long. Before that, the radio used to carry a 30-minute daily broadcast of news and commentary at 1300 to 1400 GMT.